$\frac{2/07/2009_{BUH}}{2.9.09}$ DATE $\frac{2-9-09}{396}$

To whom it may concern: Dam a Student, Dwas unable to get appeared at the bank! Loan May helped me withall of my bells and help me lat! Without them I may have had Some major back falls! I) made the decision to walk in the door and do business with They are great, especially Anna Gillham-Grayson!

Factora C. Richards

Johnsthan Bailey Am very Glad

Joan max is availed to the public. I needed

money now. So I went to loan max.

I can max did not some to me. I Am

very Great full to Anna i loan max for

All thay do

Johnstham Builey 2-7-09 To whom it Hay Coaller, ~ PAGE 04 4 I am writing this letter to inform you how bluck il appreciate the employees and services of Lean Max, and al have Hang brath issues, and write honestly of their service was not available, I would have a Much not available, I would have a Much Non difficult time. you see, their loans assist Me with My Medical bulls, medications, and money for gas to get back and forth to the doctors. to get back and forth are a little al know that their fees are a little Rober than most places, but it their service was not available el dont know what I would have done under those circumstances. encaielej,

To whom this may concern:

I Josh Wallace use the title loan services to help me gld by month to month, because with my Job I recieve a check once a month, so the money I recieve from Loan Max is used to help pay for my fuel or parts for the car I use for work.

Josh Wallace

itle Loans in Montana

Presented to the Montana House of Representatives Committee on Business and Labor

January 9, 2009

What is a "Title Loan"

- A way for a consumer to borrow against the equity in their motor vehicle
- It is a small loan (avg. \$500).
- For a short-term (30 days).
- Secured by the motor vehicle, which the borrower is able to continue to use
- Sole finance charge is a simple interest rate.
- No fees, points, late penalties, hidden charges, etc.
- In Montana, these loans are regulated pursuant to MCA section 31-1-801, et. seq.

Three Primary Customers

- Credit Impaired
- No credit history or tarnished credit history due to late or missed payments
- Have an urgent, unexpected need
- Unusually high utility bill
- Car repair needed in order to get to work and maintain job

Self-employed

 Landscapers, contractors (plumbers, drywallers, etc.) and others collateral, do job, get paid, repay loan. use truck as source of working capital. Borrow using vehicle as

Why Customers Use Title Loans

- Simplicity (simple rate, simple term)
- Accessibility
- Small minimum loans (\$100)
- No minimum length of time on job
- No minimum credit history
- Speed (20 minute transaction)
- Lack of Intrusiveness & Privacy
- No Credit Bureau or reporting
- Discrete verification of loan application.
- No Personal Liability
- If car becomes damaged or inoperable customer walks away

Why Customers Use Title Loans (cont.)

- Many borrowing needs
- Moving / Relocation Costs
- Home / Vehicle Repair
- Unexpected bills
- Working Capital
- NOT LUXURY REASONS

Conventional Financial Institutions Leaving Consumer Needs Unmet

Why Lenders Need to Charge What They Charge Issues – Rate

- These are costly, small balance transactions averaging \$400 \$500
- 36% per annum rate would average less than \$15.00 per transaction, and that's before payroll, overhead, losses and other expenses.
- Not truly "secured"
- Vehicle is typically 10 12 years old, usually between 150,000 and 250,000 miles
- Depreciating quickly
- venice other recourse besides a rapidly depreciating Losses can be high – no personal liability, no

Issues - Repossession

- Repossession rate is less than 5% in Montana
- Most frequent reasons for nonpayment is that the vehicle stops working. There is no personal liability.
- Cost of repossession, storage and sale rarely merited on small loan secured by 12 year old vehicle.
- Return of excess sale proceeds eliminates potential for windfall profit.

Existing Montana Consumer Protections

- Licensing and Regulation. Including a customer complaint procedure.
- Required Disclosures. In loan agreement and additional pamphlet.
- a 10 to 12 year old vehicle. Customers often surrender keys to their broken-down vehicle and walk away. No Personal Liability for the Loan. This means no judgments against borrowers after default and no garnishment of their wages. Borrower's only risk is the loss of
- business day. Right of Rescission. Customer can cancel loan without cost by end of next
- Borrower cannot indefinitely extend loan term. Borrower must begin to reduce the principal of loan. If borrower doesn't, lender must do so on borrower's behalf. Mandatory Principal Reduction. This addresses the "cycle of debt" issue.
- Notice of Default. Provides notice to borrower to eliminate surprise repossessions
- Rate Cap. Montana law already limits rates that can be charged by title lenders. In fact, because rates are reduced on larger title loans, Montana already has one of the lower rates in the country. Many states have unlimited rates on title loans.

Conclusions

- Title loan customers make rational economic decisions.
- Customers choose our service to address an urgent, unexpected need or to access short-term working capital—not luxury reasons.
- Rates are typically lower than overdraft fees, late fees, and over the limit fees charged by other financial institutions and businesses.
- spent in community) Title lenders provide positive economic impact (jobs, money lent is
- The Montana Title Loan Act already provides all the consumer protections seen in other states. Other states have followed Vlontana's lead.
- A 36% rate cap would immediately result in lenders being put out of business and borrowers being deprived of this financial choice.